

OPEN SOURCE WORKING GROUP

Meeting: July 25, 2006, 1:30 pm
Cal/EPA Bldg. 2nd Floor Training Rooms, 1001 I Street

Attendees: Bill Welty (ARB), Bill Fell (ARB), Susanne Bily (Black Duck), Emily McMahon (Black Duck), Arna Perry (DSS), Laurie Costa (DOJ), Eric Stevens (DOJ), Gail Overhouse (DOJ), Harry Ng (ARB), Larry Hoang (ARB), Dean Chiang (ARB), and Chris Jenks (ARB).

I. Welcome/Introductions

Random Access – Clark Kelso and Bill Welty back from their June meeting in Philadelphia re: OSS in Government hosted by Governing Magazine. The panel also included the CIOs from Wisconsin and Nevada. The California presentations were similar to those given at the GTC conference in Sacramento in May. Welty noted that the issue of whether government should use OSS seems moot at this point as so many governmental entities have already come to that realization. Instead, the timing of conversions and approaches is more the topic of conversation in 2006. The notion that “It is OK to use OSS” is a fait accompli, according to what Welty was hearing. Whether the solution is OSS or proprietary is less of concern to CIOs at this conference than the assurance that there is actual competition among vendors and vendor products.

II. Presentation by Black Duck: Emily McMahon (Sr. Sales Executive) and Suzanne Bily (Sr. Sales Engineer)

The presentation will be located at:

<http://opensource.ca.gov/public/presentations.pl> when made available to us.

Black Duck discussed OS software compliance management including licensing, indemnification, and associated issues in the use of and development of OSS. Black Duck stated that they are familiar with approximately 600 different licensing schemes. Black Duck collects OSS “code prints” from many locations (over 2,100 websites) to inventory both source and binary code. This code is then available for comparison to code generated by, for example, the DOJ. DOJ as a subscriber or as a user of Black Duck consulting services could then better ensure that its code base is compliant with the OSS licensing requirements of the entity that generated the code in the first place. This code analysis can be done at the program level or at the subroutine level.

Among other things, Black Duck’s enterprise software (i.e., the “knowledge base”) known as Protex IP enables the user to identify intellectual property rights and any associated licensing issues. If California were to set up a code library, Protex IP would be a useful

tool. Although no states have yet subscribed to this service, there are over 200 customers using this Black Duck products.

The point was reiterated multiple times that departments using OSS code from other entities should be mindful of the terms of the licensing agreements under which the code was distributed and developers should be documenting the source for any borrowed code.

Software compliance management website references:

www.blackducksoftware.com

www.palamida.com

III. OS Working Group Initiatives

None.

IV. Action Items

- a. List Serve – Chovan to implement for next meeting using the ARB list serve as the grandfathered list of email addresses for the initial broadcast. We should review the acknowledgement email back to subscribers and discuss the methods available for unsubscribing. Mike needs the welcoming language for the grandfathered folk.
- b. Welty to get Claudina Nevis to fix the CIO website to properly link to opensource.ca.gov. The old links have been removed but not replaced with the new link.
- c. Welty to find the link to the Gartner paper on OSS for linking from our website.
- d. Bollinger to continue work on the barriers document.

V. Adjourn

Website: <http://www.opensource.ca.gov>.